

Resolution [of the 22nd Meeting of the Executive Council of the World Federation of Scientific Workers]

Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal, Vol. 11 (1961), No. 4, (481)–(482)

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/100478>

Terms of use:

© Institute of Mathematics AS CR, 1961

Institute of Mathematics of the Czech Academy of Sciences provides access to digitized documents strictly for personal use. Each copy of any part of this document must contain these *Terms of use*.



This document has been digitized, optimized for electronic delivery and stamped with digital signature within the project *DML-CZ: The Czech Digital Mathematics Library* <http://dml.cz>

WORLD FEDERATION OF SCIENTIFIC WORKERS
TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Geneva, 22 and 23 September, 1961

RESOLUTION

The Twenty-second Meeting of the Executive Council of the World Federation of Scientific Workers is being held at a time of extreme gravity when the outbreak of nuclear war appears as an imminent possibility. This is the culmination of a long period of cold war and an ever accelerated arms race.

For many years, in repeated statements and appeals, the Federation has emphasised both the catastrophic nature of nuclear war and the dangers to the health of present and future generations arising from nuclear tests. The gravity of the situation must not, however, be allowed to diminish our confidence in the possibility of a peaceful solution of the present difficulties. On the contrary it should serve as a challenge to work even harder for the solution of these vital problems.

The immediate cause of the present tension is the situation in Germany and West Berlin. Sixteen years after the end of the Second World War, no peace treaty has been concluded with Germany. It is essential that this dangerous situation should be remedied by negotiation; that recognition should be granted to both German states within their existing frontiers; and that West Berlin be given the status of a neutral free city.

The present time is, however, not only one of grave danger, but also of great opportunity. The Federation welcomes the recent joint statement of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. on the principles which should govern an international agreement on general and complete disarmament. It hopes that these principles will be put into effect without delay and thus contribute to the solution of other problems threatening world peace; notably it should put an end to the nuclear arms race and to foreign military bases. Only through complete disarmament can the danger of nuclear war be finally removed.

The World Federation expresses its profound concern at the resumption of nuclear tests. It recognises that the joint agreement on principles of disarmament opens the way for the immediate cessation of tests of nuclear weapons; and it calls upon all the governments concerned, as a matter of great urgency, to achieve this end in the spirit of that agreement.

With the growing importance of science in the life of modern states, the influence and the responsibilities of scientists are rapidly increasing. Scientists have an ever growing opportunity to contribute to the improvement of understanding and mutual confidence between the peoples. The experience of many international conferences has demonstrated that because of their common interests and disciplines they rapidly establish mutual respect and understanding. In view of the importance of science and the ease of communication between scientists, such exchanges are becoming a very important element in international life and an instrument for international understanding.

In addition, because of their technical competence, scientists can, as has already been demonstrated, make a significant and creative contribution to the solution of the complex problems which are met in working towards general and complete disarmament under strict controls. The World Federation of Scientific Workers in particular, since it brings together from many countries scientists interested in the social implications of science, has an especially important role to play in times of crisis and opportunity such as the present.

We call on all scientists in all countries to make the fullest use of their special capacities for the major task of helping to avert nuclear war by urging the settlement of disputes by negotiation and in overcoming the other grave difficulties which beset the world today. They can thus contribute to bringing into existence a world of peace and plenty, free from armaments; and the establishment of conditions in which all the great possibilities of modern science can be applied exclusively to peaceful progress.